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Commission on Sustainable Development
Thirteenth session
11-22 April 2005
Item 2 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Provisional agenda*

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Report of the intergovernmental preparatory meeting for the thirteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development.
4. Thematic cluster for the implementation cycle 2004-2005 (policy session):
   (a) Water;
   (b) Sanitation;
   (c) Human settlements.
5. Other matters.
6. Provisional agenda for the fourteenth session of the Commission.
7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirteenth session.

Annotations

1. Election of officers

Rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council provides that, at the commencement of the first meeting of a regular session, the Commission shall elect, from among the representatives of its members, a Chairman and such other officers as may be required. In previous sessions, the Commission elected, in addition to a Chairman, four Vice-Chairmen, one of whom also served as Rapporteur.

* Submission of the present document was delayed to facilitate consultations conducted by the Bureau on the organization of work.

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In its resolution 1997/63, the Council decided on the following future arrangements for the election of the Bureau of the Commission in order to implement the provisions of paragraph 136 of the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21:

> The Commission, immediately following the closure of a regular session, will hold the first meeting of its subsequent regular session for the sole purpose of electing the new chairman and other members of the bureau in accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Council.

In its decision 11/2, the Commission decided to request the Council to consider the term of the Commission's Bureau for future sessions, taking into account the Commission's two-year work cycle.

In its decision 2004/214, the Council decided to give further consideration to the term of the Commission's Bureau for future sessions after the completion of the first two-year implementation cycle (twelfth and thirteenth sessions of the Commission) at its substantive session of 2005.

On 30 April 2004, the Commission elected, by acclamation, John William Ashe (Antigua and Barbuda) as Chairman and Khaled Aly Elbakly (Egypt) and Dagmara Berbalk (Germany) as Vice-Chairpersons of its thirteenth session and decided to postpone the election of the other members of the Bureau to a future meeting.

The membership of the Commission at its thirteenth session is contained in annex II.

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Rule 7 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Council provides that the Commission shall, at the beginning of each session, adopt the agenda for the session on the basis of the provisional agenda.

In its decision 2004/234, the Council took note of the report of the Commission on its twelfth session and approved the provisional agenda for its thirteenth session.

3. Report of the intergovernmental preparatory meeting for the thirteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development

In its resolution 2003/61, the Council decided that in the policy year, the Commission would convene an intergovernmental preparatory meeting for one week in New York in February/March to discuss policy options and possible actions to address the constraints and obstacles in the process of implementation identified during the review year.

The Council also decided that the discussions of the intergovernmental preparatory meeting would be based on the outcome of the review session, and reports by the Secretary-General, as well as other relevant inputs. Based on those discussions, the Chair would prepare a draft negotiating document for consideration at the policy session.

Accordingly, the Commission will convene the intergovernmental preparatory meeting from 28 February to 4 March 2005 in New York. The report of the intergovernmental preparatory meeting, to be submitted to the Commission at its thirteenth session, will contain the Chair's draft text for further consideration by the Commission.

Documentation

Report of the intergovernmental preparatory meeting for the thirteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (E/CN.17/2005/...)

4. Thematic cluster for the implementation cycle 2004-2005 (policy session)

(a) Water

(b) Sanitation

(c) Human settlements

In paragraph 1 of its resolution 2003/61, the Council decided that the organization of work of the Commission should contribute to advancing the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation") at all levels. In the same resolution, the Council also decided that in order to fulfil its mandate, the work of the Commission would be organized in a series of two-year action-oriented implementation cycles, which would include a review session and a policy session.

The Council also decided that the policy session, to be held in April/May of the second year of the cycle, would take policy decisions on practical measures and options to expedite implementation in the selected thematic cluster of issues, taking account of the discussions of the intergovernmental preparatory meeting, the Secretary-General's reports and other relevant inputs.

The Council further decided that the review sessions and the policy sessions should mobilize further action by all implementation actors to overcome obstacles and constraints in the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, and should address new challenges and opportunities and share lessons learned and best practices.

In the same resolution, the Council decided to adopt a multi-year programme of work of the Commission for the period after 2003. For the period 2004-2005, the multi-year programme of work would be as follows:

Cycle	*Thematic cluster*	*Cross-cutting issues*
2004-2005	• Water • Sanitation • Human settlements	Poverty eradication; changing unsustainable patterns of consumption and production; protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development; sustainable development in a globalizing world; health and sustainable development; sustainable development of small island developing States; sustainable development for Africa; other regional initiatives; means of implementation; institutional framework for sustainable development; gender equality; and education

The Council also decided that the implementation of that programme of work would be guided by the following considerations:

(a) The review and evaluation of the implementation of actions, commitments and targets would be dealt with in accordance with the relevant provisions of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the decisions of the Commission. The thematic clusters should be addressed in an integrated manner, taking into account the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. Recognizing that all the issues identified in Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation were important, the implementation process should cover all those issues equally, and the selection of some issues during a given cycle did not therefore diminish the importance of the commitments undertaken with respect to the issues to be considered during future cycles;

(b) Means of implementation, as identified in Agenda 21 and chapter X of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, should be addressed in every cycle and for every relevant issue, action and commitment;

(c) Other cross-cutting issues, as referred to in the annex to Council resolution 2003/61, should also be addressed in every cycle;

(d) African and other regional initiatives, as well as initiatives on small island developing States and least developed countries, would be considered in every cycle with respect to all relevant issues, actions and targets;

(e) The Commission should focus on those issues where it could add value to intergovernmental deliberations on cross-sectoral and sectoral issues, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 47/191, in particular its paragraphs 3 (h), 21 and 23, as well as paragraph 139 (f) of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

(f) The Commission should take into account the outcome of the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the General Assembly on the Integrated and Coordinated Implementation of and Follow-up to the Outcomes of the Major United Nations Conferences and Summits in the Economic and Social Fields;

(g) The Commission might decide to incorporate new challenges and opportunities related to implementation into its multi-year programme of work.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General entitled "Freshwater management: policy options and possible actions to expedite implementation" (E/CN.17/2005/2)

Report of the Secretary-General entitled "Sanitation: policy options and possible actions to expedite implementation" (E/CN.17/2005/3)

Report of the Secretary-General entitled "Human settlements: policy options and possible actions to expedite implementation" (E/CN.17/2005/4)

Note by the Secretariat transmitting the major groups' priorities for action in water, sanitation and human settlements (E/CN.17/2005/5)

Note by the Secretariat on the outcome of the Second International Forum on Partnerships for Sustainable Development (E/CN.17/2005/...)

Background papers (for information only, to be made available in the language of submission) on the following topics:

A gender perspective on water resources and sanitation

Partnerships for sustainable development: update

Water case-studies on access to, and management of, freshwater resources in agriculture

5. **Other matters**

6. **Provisional agenda for the fourteenth session of the Commission**

In accordance with rule 9 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Council, the Secretary-General shall submit a draft provisional agenda for the Commission's subsequent session, indicating in respect of each agenda item the documents to be submitted under that item and the legislative authority for their preparation, in order to enable the Commission to consider the documents from the point of view of their contribution to the work of the Commission and of their urgency and relevance in the light of the current session.

7. **Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirteenth session**

In accordance with rule 37 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Council, the Commission reports to the Council on the work of each session.

Annex I

Proposed organization of work

The proposed organization of work for the thirteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development has been drawn up on the basis of informal consultations conducted by the Bureau.

Date/time	*Agenda item*	*Programme*
Week of 11-15 April 2005		
Monday, 11 April		Opening of the session
10 a.m.-1 p.m.		Plenary
	Item 1	Election of officers
	Item 2	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
	Item 3	Report of the intergovernmental preparatory meeting for the thirteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development
3-6 p.m.	Item 4	Thematic cluster for the implementation cycle 2004-2005 (policy session): (a) water; (b) sanitation; (c) human settlements
		Regional perspectives: water
		Regional perspectives: human settlements
Tuesday, 12 April		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Item 4	Regional perspectives: sanitation
		Interactive discussions: human settlements
3-6 p.m.	Item 4	Interactive discussions: sanitation
		Interactive discussions: water
Wednesday, 13 April		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Item 4	Interactive discussions: water (*continued*)
		Interactive discussions: human settlements (*continued*)
3-6 p.m.	Item 4	Interactive discussions: water (*continued*)
		Interactive discussions: sanitation (*continued*)
Thursday, 14 April		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Item 4	Interactive discussions: sanitation (*continued*)
		Interactive discussions: human settlements (*continued*)
3-6 p.m.	Item 4	Interactive discussions with major groups
		Interactive discussions: linkages among the themes and cross-cutting issues
Friday, 15 April		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Item 4	Introduction of the Chairman's draft elements for negotiation on policy decisions
3-6 p.m.	Item 4	Negotiation: policy decisions

Date/time	*Agenda item*	*Programme*
Week of 18-22 April 2005		
Monday, 18 April		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Item 4	Negotiation: policy decisions (*continued*)
3-6 p.m.	Item 4	Negotiation: policy decisions (*continued*)
Tuesday, 19 April		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Item 4	Negotiation: policy decisions (*continued*)
3-6 p.m.	Item 4	Negotiation: policy decisions (*continued*)
Wednesday, 20 April		
8.30-10 a.m.		Informal ministerial meeting: introductory session
		Panel discussion on Millennium Development Goals related to water, sanitation and human settlements
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Item 4	Statements and interactive discussions: turning political commitments into action
3-6 p.m.	Item 4	Statements and interactive discussions: turning political commitments into action (*continued*)
Thursday, 21 April		
8.30-10 a.m.		Informal ministerial meeting with the United Nations system
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Item 4	Interactive discussions with heads of United Nations organizations
		Statements and interactive discussions: turning political commitments into action (*continued*)
3-6 p.m.	Item 4	Statements and interactive discussions: turning political commitments into action (*continued*)
		Interactive discussions with representatives of major groups
Friday, 22 April		
8.30-10 a.m.		Informal ministerial meeting: summing-up
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Item 4	Statements and interactive discussions: turning political commitments into action (*continued*)
3-4.30 p.m.	Item 5	Other matters
4.30-5.30 p.m.	Item 6	Provisional agenda for the fourteenth session of the Commission
5.30-6 p.m.	Item 7	Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirteenth session
		Closure of the session

Annex II

Membership of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its thirteenth session

Algeria
Antigua and Barbuda
Argentina
Australia
Austria
Azerbaijan
Belgium
Brazil
Burkina Faso
Canada
China
Colombia
Costa Rica
Croatia
Democratic Republic of the Congo
Egypt
Ethiopia
Fiji
Finland
France
Gabon
Georgia
Germany
Ghana
Guinea-Bissau
Honduras
Hungary
Islamic Republic of Iran
Jamaica
Japan
Kazakhstan
Lesotho
Luxembourg
Nepal
Netherlands
Norway
Pakistan
Paraguay
Peru
Qatar
Republic of Korea
Russian Federation
Saint Lucia
Saudi Arabia
Sierra Leone
South Africa
Sudan
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Turkey
Uganda
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
United States of America
Uzbekistan